



**Hudson River
Valley Greenway**

Albany-Hudson Electric Trail Opens to the Public! **December 2020 Update**

On December 30, 2020, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail (AHET), a 36-mile bicycling and hiking route from the City of Rensselaer in Rensselaer County to the Town of Greenport in Columbia County, is complete and open to the public. The Hudson River Valley Greenway constructed the project, which is part of the statewide Empire State Trail. Most of the AHET Trail is an off-road “rail trail” built on an historic electric trolley corridor, now owned by National Grid which donated authorization to NYS to construct the trail. The remainder of the AHET route is designated along public roadways. The AHET route is depicted on the map below.

NYS has created a comprehensive Empire State Trail website which provides detailed AHET trail segment descriptions: <https://empiretrail.ny.gov/>. The website includes an on-line map allowing visitors to zoom in to see the precise trail route, including asphalt and stonedust trail sections, on-road connections, designated parking areas, and nearby attractions.

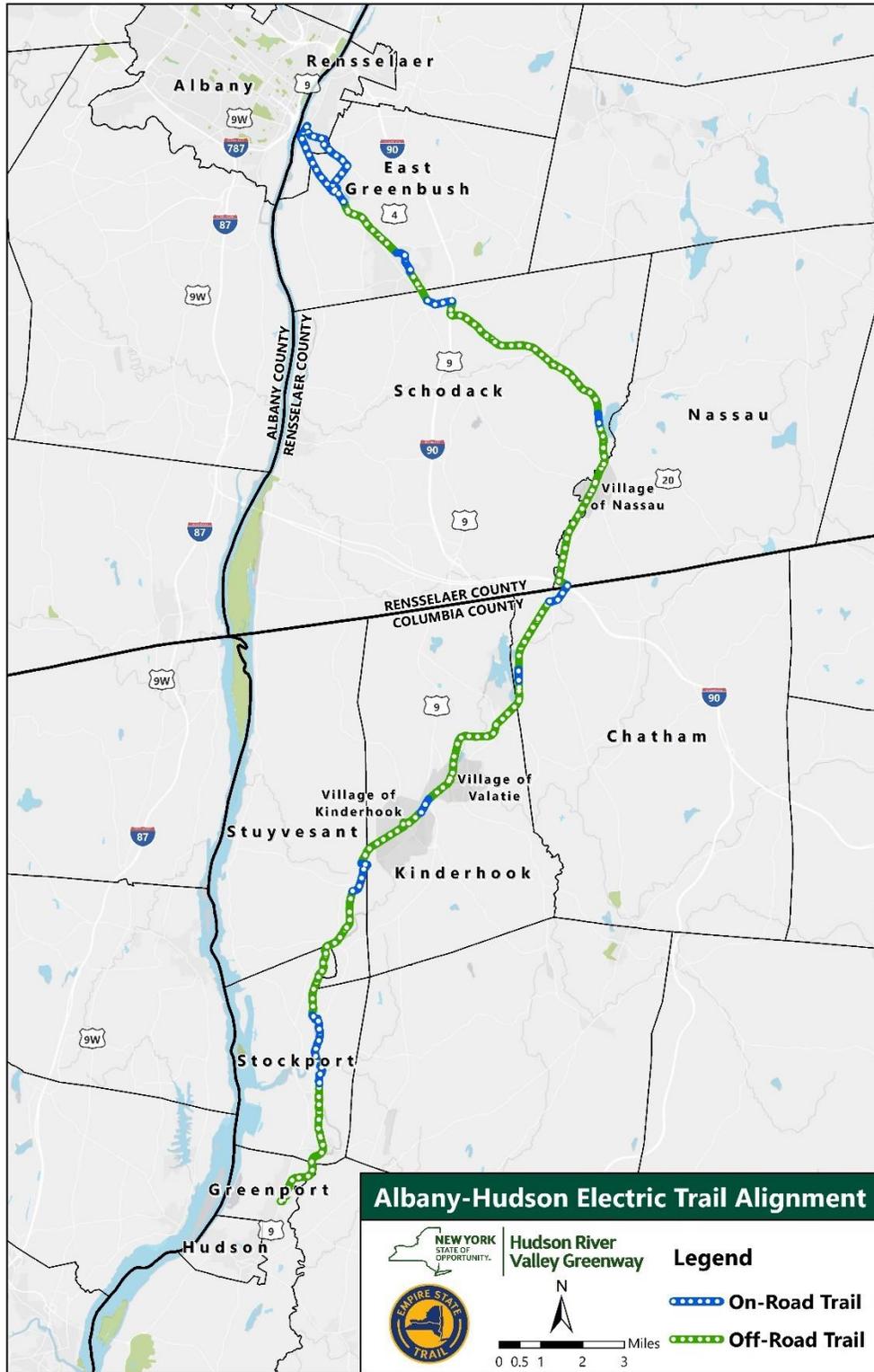
The AHET trail is 10 to 12-feet wide with gentle grades, welcoming visitors of all ages and abilities. Most of the trail has a paved asphalt surface; some sections in Columbia County have a stonedust surface, which is compacted fine-grinded stone. The trail is open year-round, dawn to dusk, for non-motorized recreation (ATVs, dirt bikes, snowmobiles, and other motorized vehicles are prohibited).

The trail will not be plowed – during winter months the trail is open for hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing as weather conditions allow. Dogs are allowed but must be kept on leash at all times, and owners must clean up after their pets. Trail users are reminded to stay on the trail and not enter adjacent private property.

The Hudson River Valley Greenway expresses appreciation to the following local government and non-profit partners who have agreed to mow the trail’s grass shoulders, trim vegetation, and help maintain sections of the AHET trail:

- The Town of East Greenbush
- The Town of Nassau
- The Village of Nassau
- The Village of Kinderhook
- The Columbia Friends of the Electric Trail
- The Rensselaer Land Trust

On the AHET map below, **Green** sections are off-road trail open to non-motorized recreation. **Blue** sections are on-road connections, designated on the shoulders of public roads. An on-line trail map, including designated parking, is available at: <https://empiretrail.ny.gov/>.



AHET Trail Regulations

New York State has adopted regulations governing the public's use of the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail, which include:

1. **Dawn to Dusk Use Only.** The trail is open to public use from dawn to dusk only. Trail use is prohibited during night-time hours.
2. **No Motor Vehicles, All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Dirt Bikes, or Snowmobiles.** Public use of ATVs, dirt bikes, snowmobiles, automobiles, trucks, and all other types of motor vehicles is prohibited.
3. **Dogs.** Dogs and other pets are allowed on the trail. Dogs must be kept on a 6-foot leash at all times, and owners must dispose of their pet's waste in a prompt and sanitary manner.
4. **No Entering Private Property.** Leaving the trail to enter private property adjacent to the trail without the explicit permission of the private landowner is trespassing.
5. **No Littering or Dumping.** Littering, dumping, or abandoning garbage or refuse is prohibited.
6. **No Hunting, Firearms, and Weapons.** Hunting or discharging firearms on the trail is prohibited. The possession of firearms, bows, crossbows, or weapons on the trail is prohibited.
7. **No Equestrian Activities.** The use of horses is prohibited.
8. **No Alcoholic Beverages.** The consumption of any alcoholic beverage, or possession of an open container of any alcoholic beverage, is prohibited.

A comprehensive list of trail use regulations is available on the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail in New York's Codes, Rules and Regulations at 9 NYCRR Parts 375 and 377.

All state and local police departments and law enforcement agencies are authorized to enforce these regulations.

Anyone having questions or comments regarding the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail, including adjacent landowners that would like to schedule a field visit with Greenway staff, can contact the Greenway by using the "Submit Comment" section of the project website: www.AHETtrail.org. The Greenway monitors website comments on a daily basis.



Above and below: open sections of the AHET trail in Rensselaer County



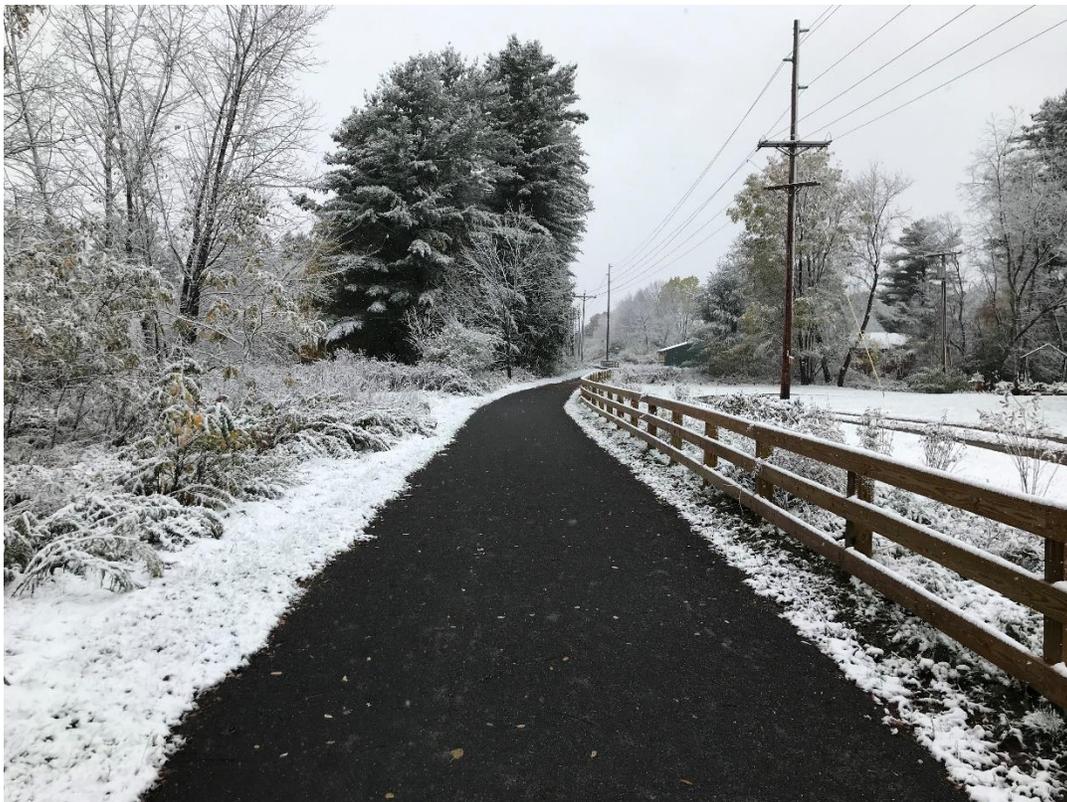


Above and below – newly opened AHET trail sections in Columbia County.





The AHET trail is open year-round; the trail is not plowed in the winter.



Albany-Hudson Electric Trail

Trailhead Parking Area Locations & Status

The Greenway has created 9 formal Trailhead Parking Areas along the 36-mile AHET trail route. The AHET Trailheads are detailed below, listed “north to south” along the trail.

Rensselaer County

1. **Rensselaer Riverfront Park Trailhead** (20 parking spots)
 - Address: Broadway, Rensselaer, NY 12144
2. **East Greenbush Clinton Street Trailhead** (11 parking spots)
 - Address: Intersection of Clinton St. and Columbia Turnpike (Route 20)
East Greenbush, NY 12061
3. **Schodack/Nassau Lake Trailhead** (13 parking spots)
 - Address: County Route 7, Nassau, NY 12123
4. **Village of Nassau Trailhead** (30+ parking spots)
 - Address: Village Commons Park, John Street, Nassau, NY 12123

Columbia County

5. **Niverville Trailhead** (11 parking spots)
 - Address: Intersection of State Route 203 and Main St (County Route 28)
Niverville, NY 12130
6. **Valatie Route 9/9H Park & Ride Lot** (50 parking spots)
 - Address: Intersection of State Routes 9 & 9H, Valatie, NY 12184
7. **Village of Kinderhook Trailhead – Rothermel Park** (33 parking spots)
 - Address: Village Playground, Rothermel Ave, Kinderhook, NY 12106
8. **Stuyvesant Falls Trailhead** (4 parking spots plus 20 spots on east side of bridge)
 - Address: County Route 25A (Hudson Ave), Stuyvesant Falls, NY 12174
9. **Stottville Park Trailhead** (15 parking spots)
 - Address: Little League Field, Atlantic Ave, Stottville, NY 12172

An on-line trail map, including designated parking, is available at: <https://empiretrail.ny.gov/>.